

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lamp house storing a plurality of flash lamps and a chamber storing and holding a semiconductor wafer are fitted to each other in an openable/closable manner. The lamp house and the chamber are fixed to a closed state with male screws. In order 5 to process a semiconductor wafer, a shutter plate is drawn out to open an irradiation window. In this state, the shutter plate shields a space located above the male screws so that the male screws cannot be detached for opening the lamp house and the chamber. In order to open the lamp house and the chamber, the shutter plate must be inserted for shielding the irradiation window while opening the space located above the male screws. 10 Thus, a thermal processing apparatus capable of preventing the lamps from breaking during maintenance thereof is provided.